

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 13, 2020

Chairman Sanford Bishop, Jr.
Appropriations Subcommittee on
Agricultural, Rural Development, FDA, &
Related Agencies
2362-A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Ranking Member Jeff Fortenberry
Appropriations Subcommittee on
Agricultural, Rural Development, FDA, &
Related Agencies
1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Bishop and Ranking Member Fortenberry:

Thank you for your continued support for agricultural research at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agriculture Research Service (ARS). ARS stations across the country conduct vitally important research that ensures our agriculture industries remain competitive at a global level. As members representing districts that have strong horticulture related industries, we appreciate the opportunity to express our support for the following **program funding request** in the FY 2021 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.

Horticultural trade – The committee supports the USDA's goals to enhance global food security and understands that postharvest control of pests and decay is critical toward success. With the goal of retaining and expanding trade of U.S. grown horticultural crops, the committee directs the ARS to conduct research on postharvest methyl bromide alternatives as well as postharvest losses caused by diseases and physiological disorders to ensure that high-quality, pest-free goods can access markets effectively. The committee provides an additional \$2 million to support these efforts.

Thank you for your support of this initiative and your overall support of strong agriculture research funding.

Sincerely,



TJ Cox
Member of Congress



Jim Costa
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Salud O. Carbajal
Member of Congress